

FOIAB5

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP

DATE 12 Aug 75

TO:

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Acting Deputy Director for Administration					8/11/75
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FORM NO.
1-67

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

W-5.2

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

STUART SYMINGTON
MISSOURI
7.5.3.204/5
STANLEY R. FIKE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

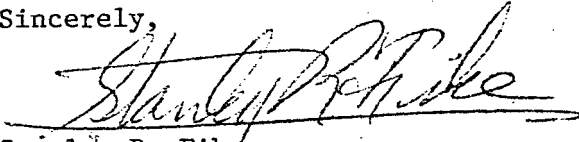
July 16, 1975

Honorable William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Director:

At the Senator's suggestion, enclosed herewith is a copy of the statement he completed, and which we released to the press, about 6:00 p.m. yesterday.

Sincerely,


Stanley R. Fike
Administrative Assistant to
Senator Symington

SRF:d1

NEWS RELEASE
FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STUART SYMINGTON (D-MO)
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
JULY 15, 1975

STATEMENT BY SENATOR SYMINGTON
RE INTERVIEWS WITH DIRECTOR COLBY

WASHINGTON, D.C., JULY 15, 1975 -- In the press of July 9 it was reported that Director Colby gave me "a detailed page by page review of the data collected in the CIA's investigation of improper activities within the intelligence organization."

Today, at my request, Mr. Colby came to my office to discuss this matter.

At his request, I had seen Mr. Colby in my apartment in the spring of 1973. At that time he read out of a green book what he thought it necessary for me, as Acting Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, to know.

At that time also, he stated improper activities had been found in the Agency which he said had been stopped and would not reoccur if he were confirmed.

When I saw Mr. Colby this morning he stated that he had told me the CIA had been working with domestic police forces, which he planned to stop. I do not remember this, but would take his word for it.

He also reported that he had said he planned to stop the opening of domestic mail. This I do recall.

After this meeting in 1973, I stipulated he would appear in open hearing prior to confirmation so as to answer any questions the Armed Services Committee considered advisable; and later

Colby -- Add one

would also appear in executive session. This he did.

I do remember asking him in 1973 whether the Central Intelligence Agency had actually killed anybody. His answer was "No."

Recent developments illustrate well how important it is for this Agency to be subject to closer supervision. Such occurrences are among the reasons why I urged that the special committee, now operating, be set up to investigate all intelligence activities.

As but one illustration of lack of knowledge, even though I was Acting Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee in 1973, following the accident to the Chairman, I first learned from the news media of the hundreds of millions of dollars the CIA was spending in effort to raise a sunken Soviet submarine.

One of the more unfortunate "ploys" that has often been utilized in past years re military and intelligence matters has been for the Executive Branch to single out and present to one or more members of Congress facts withheld from other members of the Committee in question, then state to the news media that the Congress had been informed; in fact I can think of one such instance where over a billion dollars of the taxpayers' money was expended on a questionable project, not only without the approval, but without even the knowledge, of any member of the proper committees of the Senate. This had to do with the electronic line set up in Vietnam near the DMZ and later abandoned.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

V M F F

15 JUL 1975

The Honorable Stuart Symington
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Symington:

Thank you for the opportunity today to refresh your memory on my briefing of you on May 26, 1973, on various questionable activities in CIA's past history. You will recall that I summarized these for you orally from a collection made by our Inspector General pursuant to a directive by then Director Schlesinger. The briefing covered a number of matters which were and still are considered classified, although they have been reported subsequently to the Vice President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States and to the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities.

In the course of that briefing, you obtained from me assurances that these questionable activities would be terminated if they were not appropriate under the law and CIA's charter. You will recall that you obtained the same assurances as a result of a series of questions during my confirmation hearing, which you chaired. Thus, in my view you carried out in a fully responsible and effective way the function of oversight of our sensitive intelligence activities, i.e., reviewing them, insisting on compliance with our proper charter, but at the same time not revealing them publicly. We in CIA and I personally have profited over the years from your oversight of our activities, as I believe has the nation as a whole.

Sincerely,

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

STATINTL

W. E. Colby
Director

WEC:blp:jlp (15July75)

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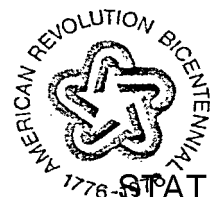
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STATINTL

COMMITTEES: Approved For Release 2007/03/14 : CIA-RDP79M00467A002700010002-0
AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES
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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

STANLEY R. FIKE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MISSOURI

Executive Registry
75-3204/11

July 10, 1975

Honorable William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Acknowledging your letter of July 9 and the attachments thereto, at mutual convenience I would appreciate your coming over and telling me what you think you told me on that morning at my apartment on May 26, 1973.

Sincerely,

Stuart Symington

SS:yw

75-3204

9 July 1975

The Honorable Stuart Symington
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Symington:

The press today carries references to the fact that you were briefed by me in May 1973 on various questionable activities in CIA's past. The press references stem from the public release, approved by the President yesterday, of my report to the President of December 24, 1974, following The New York Times article of December 22nd alleging CIA involvement in a "massive illegal domestic intelligence operation." Annex I to that report was a copy of a memorandum written by me on 29 August 1973. This memorandum refers to the Agency's assembly of information in May 1973 on questionable activities in its past, pursuant to a memorandum dated May 9, 1973, issued by then Director Schlesinger (Annex F of the 24 December report to the President). In this 29 August 1973 memorandum, I referred to the fact that the assembled material was used "in a detailed, page-by-page review of all such information with Senator Symington and Congressman Nedzi, as Chairman of the Senate and House Armed Services Intelligence Subcommittees, respectively." It is this reference that the press based their stories on this morning. I attach a copy of the relevant documents.

You may recall that on 26 May 1973, Mr. Lawrence Houston and I visited you at your apartment at the Watergate to review a collection made by our Inspector General of questionable activities in the Agency's past. We used the Inspector General's summary of these events as the basis for our discussion with you and endeavored to cover all the major elements of the collection, at least in summary form. In response to your several questions, I assured you that any activity beyond CIA's charter which might have taken place in the past would not be permitted to happen again. You will recall that you made a particular point of

- 2 -

obtaining this commitment from me during my confirmation hearings. In response to this commitment, I developed the memorandum of August 29, 1973, referred to above, which levied specific directives to terminate improper activity by the CIA in the future.

At your convenience I would be glad to show you the original material used to brief you (much of which is still classified), together with the full text of the instructions and other memoranda relating to this matter. The entire package of course has been made available to the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities, as well as to the Rockefeller Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States. It was the basis for my report to the President of December 24, 1974, although that of course was limited to the subjects covered in The New York Times article of December 22nd.

If you have any further questions on this matter, I would be pleased to respond.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

W. E. Colby
Director

Attachment:

Declassified version of DCI report to the President of 24 Dec 74
WEC:blp

Distribution:

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17	Asst/DCI		X		
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20	SC/DCI		X		
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D/Executive Secretary

07/18/75

Date

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